



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS  
2 NAVY ANNEX  
WASHINGTON DC 20370-5100

CRS  
Docket No: 5780-00  
22 January 2001

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]:

This is in reference to your application on behalf of your late father for correction of his naval record pursuant to the provisions of Title 10, United States Code, Section 1552.

A three-member panel of the Board for Correction of Naval Records, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 10 January 2001. Your allegations of error and injustice were reviewed in accordance with administrative regulations and procedures applicable to the proceedings of this Board. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of your application, together with all material submitted in support thereof, your father's naval record and applicable statutes, regulations and policies.

After careful and conscientious consideration of the entire record, the Board found that the evidence submitted was insufficient to establish the existence of probable material error or injustice.

The Board found that your late father enlisted in the Navy on 14 January 1941 at age 19. The record reflects that on 14 May 1943 while on board ship, he had an amputation of the distal phalanx, right third finger. Subsequently, on 8 November 1946 he received an honorable discharge by reason of expiration of term of service. There is no evidence in his service record that he was wounded in connection with an attack by an enemy submarine.

After careful and conscientious consideration of the entire record, the Board found insufficient evidence to support your claim for an award of the Purple Heart to your late father. In this regard, the Board noted that the medical record entry does not indicate that the injury was combat related. Additionally, there is no evidence that the ship knew it was being attacked by an enemy submarine, and it did not take any evasive action. Accordingly, your application has been denied. The names and votes of the members of the panel will be furnished upon request.

It is regretted that the circumstances of your case are such that

It is regretted that the circumstances of your case are such that favorable action cannot be taken. You are entitled to have the Board reconsider its decision upon submission of new and material evidence or other matter not previously considered by the Board. In this regard, it is important to keep in mind that a presumption of regularity attaches to all official records. Consequently, when applying for a correction of an official naval record, the burden is on the applicant to demonstrate the existence of probable material error or injustice.

Sincerely,

W. DEAN PFEIFFER  
Executive Director